

# Media Release



For Immediate Release:

## **453 Surveys Completed in Greater Victoria Point in Time Count**

Victoria, BC, February 11, 2016 – An estimated 453 Point in Time Count (PiT Count) surveys were completed by volunteers during yesterday’s 12-hour count.

“It’s important to remember that this is just the number of survey’s volunteers completed,” said Charlayne Thornton-Joe, Point in Time Count spokesperson. “This number does not represent the number of people experiencing homelessness in our community, that more detailed information will be available in the coming months.”

“We’d like to express our gratitude to all the volunteers in the community who made the Count possible,” said Thornton-Joe. “We were completely overwhelmed with the generosity of Greater Victorians.”

The 2016 Greater Victoria Point in Time Count took place February 10, 2016 from noon to midnight. The PiT Count is a count of people in Greater Victoria experiencing homelessness. The count will also survey those individuals, providing information on demographics and service needs of the population.

### **PiT Details**

- The first region-wide coordinated Point-in-Time Count is an initiative taking place under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS).
- This will be the first PiT Count coordinated in communities across the country, using a common methodology.
- The PiT Count is funded by the Government of Canada's Homelessness Partnering Strategy.
- The CRD has contracted the Community Social Planning Council (CSPC) to coordinate the count.
- The PiT Count will include:
  - People in emergency shelters and transitional housing,
  - People who are sheltering out-of-doors (in tents, doorways or vehicles),
  - People in public facilities (e.g., hospitals, correctional facilities) with no fixed address.
- A broad range of community agencies and partners worked together to determine the region’s information needs with respect to the count, including:
  - local municipalities,
  - Island Health,
  - homelessness service providers,
  - local police services,
  - other housing and social service agencies, and

- people who have experienced homelessness.

## **Survey Reports**

The preliminary and final reports of the survey data collected will be ready later in the spring.

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For more information:

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